

Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce Monthly Newsletter

The Chronicle



Centralia - Chehalis
Chamber of Commerce

Promote • Protect • Inform

Start the new year on the right foot!

Reach out to the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce and see how we can help your business grow. Whether it be networking events, or helping your business with its marketing needs, we have the tools to help your business going forward!

Contact us today at (360) 748-8885 or email marketing@chamberway.com.

Business Connections

The Chamber is open Mon-Fri 9-5

January 2022

Be the Bright Spot

I woke up this morning and my world was a bit different. It was covered in a beautiful blanket of crisp snow. The ground was slick, the air was biting with a cold frosty feeling that quickly turned my pink hands bright red as I bent down to grab it. I couldn't help but make a snowball and chuck it in my yard for my dog. She of course ran over and tried to catch a ball that turned into slush as she bit at it. It was a bit of joy inside of my heart that honestly I feel I've been lacking in my life. It was fun, it was easy and honestly made me think a lot about happiness and what that means to each and every one of us. It was sort of an introspective time that made me reflect a bit about my own life and also about your life as a business owner, as a retailer, as a manager, as a store clerk, as a mill worker, as an ER nurse. We are all working in life, we all have our own set of burdens, and we all have our own things that bring us joy. All of those things look very different for each and every one of us.



Alicia Fox
Executive Director

So, my story doesn't end with a snowball chucking session with my pooch. I need to fast forward one day when I woke and realized all the water in my house was off and my pipes were frozen. My heart flipped from feeling giddy as a child, to upset and feeling a bit damaged by the weather. Lucky for me my dad came by and helped me defrost my pipes but the question kept in my mind regarding how something so beautiful can also cause harm? Well, I haven't figured all of that out yet, (even though after my fathers educational session I definitely have a better understanding as to how to prevent it from happening again) but what I did figure out is that sometimes we don't see all the effects that something causes in the community around us. I think it's important to remember that cold weather brings freezing temperatures for people that don't have heat, water or maybe even a roof over their head. Reaching out to neighbors and checking in is a thoughtful gesture.

I am hoping that as we enter into 2022 together as a community, that we all think about the things

that come at us that may look beautiful on the onset to some but are hardships for others. Looking at all angles of what is in front of us is critical to community success. So, while we play, work and experience outdoor recreation in the snow please keep the people who are struggling in your heart.

The business community is open and needs your patronage. Our community is stocked with supplies to buy like sleds, Mr. Heaters, gloves, hats, coats, boots, and umbrellas. My wish for you as we enter into 2022 is that your heart is warm and you experience the childlike beauty of a snow fall. I also hope as a community we are ready to look past the beauty of the flakes when the time is right, roll up our sleeves and get Lewis County back to a place that people can live a good life with food on their tables, a roof over their heads, a bed to tuck their kids in at night and a job to go to so that they may provide for their families. I hope you will join the Chamber of Commerce in wishing light and love to Lewis County for 2022. We can be the bright spot!

Vital Issues of Safety, Security and Education Must be Addressed in the Coming 2022 Legislative Session

Legislators are often asked about their top legislative issues each session. My priorities going into my second year have not changed much from my first. I start by asking myself what keeps parents, business owners, and Washington workers up at night? The answers are the same that keep me up at night: public safety, financial security, and educational and career opportunities for my children.

A safe community is on the top of most priority lists. Over the past year, and for the eleventh consecutive year, Washington state has ranked last in the number of police officers per capita. This is an enormous testament to the quality of law enforcement officers and their training. However, I believe recent "reforms" went too far and made many of us feel less safe and less secure in our homes, at our businesses, and on our streets. Out unsafe feelings are not unjustified.

As a member of the Civil Rights and Judiciary Committee, I will again call on my colleagues to increase support for law enforcement officers. The state Legislature must resist calls to disarm and defund police, to strip judicial officers of their authority to enforce the law, and to financially abandon

victims of crimes. Public safety will be an important issue to watch in the upcoming short session.

Financial security is an issue that Washington families have faced for many years. Despite last session seeing a \$5.5 billion budget surplus, \$2 billion in unspent federal stimulus money, and \$1 billion untouched in the budget stabilization account, the governor and majority passed an income tax on capital gains, as well as several regressive tax and fee increases. New taxes and fees are not the answer to lifting families out of poverty or creating economic opportunities. Unfortunately, in early December, the governor proposed a budget that increases spending by \$10 billion; a whopping 19.1% spending increase in his 10 years!

I will continue to fight against a new payroll tax and other regressive taxes on working families. I believe we must support tax cuts for working families and small businesses, create opportunities for success through incentives, and reduce overburdensome regulations that hold communities back from creating family wage jobs. I will continue to urge fiscal responsibility and scrutinize frivolous spending.

Lastly, many feel our education system is failing students, despite having amazing teachers fighting every day in the trenches. I believe we must end cookie-cutter policies that create obstacles to success for college bound and career ready students. We must allow for flexibility within school districts, choices for families, and options that reflect the values of our unique community's needs. We must ensure parents are heard and our children receive a quality education.

The 60-day legislative session begins Jan. 10. It will be important to stay informed and engaged! I welcome your thoughts, ideas, and comments throughout the session and year-round. I want to thank the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce for allowing me to engage members and our community, and for staying true to its mission of helping our business community grow, prosper, and remain successful.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Rep. Peter Abbarno, R-Centralia, serves the 20th Legislative District. He can be reached at peter.abbarno@leg.wa.gov or through Representative Peter Abbarno.

New Chamber Members

As your business transitions from COVID to normality, reap the marketing and networking benefits that come with being a member! Call the Chamber today!

Timberland Regional Library

415 Tumwater Blvd. SW,
Tumwater, WA 98501
360-943-5001
<https://www.trl.org/locations/tumwater>

WSU Lewis County Master

Recyclers/Composter
351 NW North Street,
Chehalis, WA 98532
360-740-1216
<https://lewis-mg-mrc.org/>



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CH614421

Health & Hope FREE CLINIC

The volunteers at Health and Hope are truly invaluable! The clinic wouldn't exist without them. Each week the clinic has about 2 dozen volunteers making it run effectively. Though providers (MDs, PAs or ARNPs) are always welcome, the volunteers aren't all medical. We need intake personnel, receptionists, interpreters, resource specialists. Several volunteers do work outside the clinic. We need a meal coordinator, a referral volunteer, volunteers willing to provide meals and volunteers willing to assist with fundraising events. Please visit HHMO.org or visit our Facebook page at Health and Hope Medical Outreach for more information.

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and receive a free quote**

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CH030303W40



Directory

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Lindy Waring
Chair
KELA/KMNT Radio

Coralee Taylor
Incoming Chair
The Silver Agency / The Chronicle

Julie Pendleton
Secretary
Dick's Brewing Co.

Julie Shaffley
Treasurer
Good Health Nutrition Center

Matt Moses
At-Large
Sierra Pacific Industries

Amanda Singleton
Past Chair
Rainier Connect

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Brenda Balmelli
Chehalis Livestock Market

Stan Bowman
Chase Bank

Walter Cuestas
Century 21/Lund Realtors

Trent Hennings
Riverside Golf Club

Erin Hillier
Hillier, Scheibmeir, Kelly &
Scatterfield, PS

Tony Ketchum
Community Member

Daryl Lund
Community Member

Jeff Malloy
O'Blarney's

Cameron McGee
Calypso

Chris Thomas
Providence Hospital

Sandra Wing
LC Sports Commission

Rodney Youckton
Lucky Eagle Casino and Hotel

NON-VOTING

Rob Hill
City of Centralia

Jill Anderson
City of Chehalis

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TheChamber@ChamberWay.com



December Business After Hours

Enjoy these photos from last month's Business After Hours! Thank you Althausen Rayan Abbarno, LLP for hosting and sponsoring this event. It was a great night full of drinks, laughter, and ugly sweaters! What a great event to close out 2021 and we're looking forward to where 2022 will take us!



71st Annual Santa Parade

Enjoy a few photos from last month's Santa Parade! Thank you to everyone who attended, everyone who participated, and of course, our awesome sponsors who made this event possible! We can't wait to host this event again in December 2022!



PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



A big
thank
you
to our
sponsors
heading
into
2022.



Thank
you for
your
support!

BIZZBUZZ

Artists!

Have you ever thought about jurying into ARTrails or another juried art show? Brush up your portfolio and take some good photos of your art.

We can help you with jury workshops. We provide free instructions and how to navigate the jury process.

LAST JURY WORKSHOP:

Saturday January 8th Chehalis Library

Come in to talk to ARTrails' artists and find out about the jury process. How we look at your pictures, what we are looking for in a photo and how to describe your art in words for the jury application.

What does it take to jury into ARTrails? 5 high quality photographs of your work executed in the last two years, a completed application form and \$15. You don't need to have your own studio to participate in the Studio Tour, we have many locations and studios available to show your work. Application deadline is February 1, 2022.

Financially strapped? We have sponsorships! Contact Artrailsmembership@gmail.com

ARTrails provides a wonderful opportunity for artists to promote and sell their work and provide an enjoyable and inspiring educational experience for the public.

Visit our website at www.ArtrailsofSWW.org and click on "Join us" for the application and information about our successful art group.

If you have questions, please contact us at jury@artrailsofsww.org

¿Es usted un artista que vive y trabaja en el suroeste de Washington? Si es así, ArtTrails invita a unirse a su gira anual de estudio. Información y de las aplicaciones

L.C. House Plans

Do you own land and would like to build your dream home? Are you looking to build a shop or pole barn? Would you like to start an addition to your house or remodel part of it? Call us at (360) 345-6679 to schedule a free consultation to review your markups or notes.

With 16+ years of Residential Drafting and Design, we can help you through the process to get your building permit. Visit our website at www.LocalHousePlans.com or simply email our office at info@localhouseplans.com. Follow us on Facebook for

construction related updates, land for sale and to support local small businesses.

Saint Joseph School

December is a significant month at Saint Joseph School in Chehalis. Students and staff were pleased and proud to receive second place in this year's Chamber of Commerce sponsored Santa Parade with a float featuring a Peace on Earth theme.

As we prepare for the birth of Jesus the savior on Christmas Day, students have been rehearsing for the Annual Pre-K - 8th grade Christmas Concert. The concert was filmed and will be shared with all our families.

Saint Joseph Church and School encourage everyone to join in celebrating the coming of Christ the King. To learn Mass times on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day at Saint Joseph in Chehalis, Saint Mary in Centralia, Saint Francis in Toledo, and Saint Yves in Silver Creek, call the parish office at (360) 748-4953. Masks are required of all who attend.

Next month Saint Joseph will take part in National Catholic Schools Week with a variety of events and activities. Check out the school website at stjoeschehalis.org, call the school at 360-748-0961, or email the school at admissions@stjoeschehalis.org.

In this season of giving, may you cherish the gifts that you keep in your heart, including faith and grace, and carry them into the year ahead.

Centralia Outlets January Clearance Sale

January 14 – 17, 2022

This is the perfect time to shop at the Centralia Outlets, you'll find some of the best deals of the year during our January Clearance Sale!

Find a wide variety of popular winter footwear for men, women, and children at Famous Footwear Outlet, Nike Clearance Store, New Balance Factory Store, Skechers, and Under Armour Clearance House.

Stay warm in stylish coats, sweaters, and PJ's found at Aeropostale, Eddie Bauer Outlet, Hanes Brands Outlet, Pendleton, and Polo Ralph Lauren Factory Store. With so many fashion choices, you'll be guaranteed to find the style you're looking for!

Shop at The Children's Place, Hanes Brands Outlet, Polo Ralph Lauren Factory Store, and Gap Factory Store to find the best sales and prices on children's clothing.

And don't miss out on great sales at Bath & Body Works Outlet, Coach Outlet, Claire's, Chico's, Volcom, and more.

To view a full list of stores, store hours, and store sales, please visit our website at www.centraliaoutlets.com.

Blue Skies Drones

At Blue Skies Drones we hope and pray you are well and ready for Christmas and the New Year. In the spirit of the Season we also hope that you are able to enjoy some of the festivities such as the Christmas lights and special events like the 11th Annual Lighted Tractor Parade in Centralia! We did take a moment and go enjoy watching this wonderful tradition. In fact you can enjoy a taste of it on the internet if you missed it. As a commercial drone operator, one of our pilots, Dale, was able to fly a drone on December 11th and capture a unique perspective from the air! Check out our Facebook page to see the video!

Master Gardeners

Plant Insect Clinic:

Master Gardener volunteers receive specialized training to help solve plant and insect problems and to provide you with current, research-based information about a wide-range of gardening, landscaping, and environment stewardship-related issues.

The Master Gardener Plant & Insect Clinic is now open to the public Monday-Wednesday from 9am to 12pm. The WSU Lewis County Extension office is located at 17 SW Cascade Ave., Chehalis, WA 98532

To help properly identify and diagnose plant and insect issues, please follow these instructions:

Plant samples should be as fresh as possible and should include both infected and healthy plant parts (intact stems, leaves, berries, flowers, bark, etc.).

Insects should be alive, if possible, inside a clear container or baggie OR submerged in rubbing alcohol.

Samples can also be sent to the WSU Puyallup Plant & Insect Diagnostic Laboratory. Paperwork and shipping supplies are available at the WSU Lewis County Extension office.

2022 Lewis County WSU Master Gardener Training:

Depending on future COVID-related issues, the in-person Master Gardener Training Course (MGTC) will begin on January 18, 2022 and will occur every

What is going on with your business? Submit a small paragraph (200 words or less) and let the community know about new hires, promotions, business awards and other business news.

Chamber Members! The deadline for Bizz Buzz is the 3rd Wednesday of each month by 4:00 p.m. Email thechamber@chamberway.com.

third Tuesday from 9 am to 3 pm through November. A hybrid option (a combination of in-person and online training) will be offered to enable distant learners and those who work on Tuesdays to participate in the training. Hybrid training dates and times to be determined. Applicants for either option can apply and begin training throughout the year. The 11-month MGTC costs \$214 and includes in-person and online coursework, field trips, tours, and hands-on volunteer activities. Application packets are available at:

In-person
WSU Lewis County Extension
office at 17 SW Cascade Ave.,
Chehalis, WA 98532
Online
<https://extension.wsu.edu/lewis/gardening/>
Email
jason.adams@lewiscountywa.gov
Phone - (360) 740-1216

Lewis County Adventist School

Lewis County Adventist School, located at 2102 S Scheuber Rd in Chehalis, held a Christmas program on December 14, titled "Gifts from Above". The program featured all students at the school, who presented spoken word, songs and instrumental music. The program included a song in Spanish by the 9th and 10th grade students, who are learning Spanish as part of their curriculum. All students, from 1st to 10th grade, have music lessons included as part the curriculum and are also taught to play musical instruments. Therefore, instrumental music was presented in the program including chimes by the 1st and 2nd graders, ukuleles by the 3rd graders, and bells by the 9th and 10th graders. LCAS staff also presented a song using bells. In addition, there were instrumental presentations by several bands: the beginner band which includes the 4th and 5th graders, the intermediate band which includes the 6th to 8th graders, and the advanced band which is open to any student and the community. The bands are all taught and directed by Mario Pesacreta.

Lewis County Adventists School is accredited and it offers preschool to 10th grade Christian education. The school strives to both academically educate and spiritually nurture all its students. For more information about the school visit www.LCAS.org or if you have question or would like to schedule a tour of the school,

please contact the principal, Kelly Gennick, at 360-748-3213 or email her at office@lcas.org

Freeborn Wellness Industrial OT & PT 3 Year Anniversary Cornhole

Tournament/Open House

Here at Freeborn Wellness, we feel humbled and grateful for all that the last 3 years

have brought. Though the struggles of the Covid-19 pandemic have been difficult, we want to look back on these 3 years and celebrate. We have been lucky enough to be a part of the journeys of our incredible clients as they strive towards the goal of returning to work. We look forward to the many people we get to serve in the future.

So, to celebrate the years past and to kick off a new year we are throwing an open house style cornhole tournament including food, drinks and prizes. Our event will be open to the public so feel free to stop by even just to get a taste of what we're all about.

Every Friday at Freeborn Wellness we have what's called Fun Friday. We celebrate Fun

Friday with various functional games that target our client's goals. Over the years we've played all sorts of games, but our favorite by far is cornhole. Cornhole has been especially helpful for our client's with upper extremity injuries and it will be the main event at our anniversary party this year. Please reach out to Kerissa at (360)-870-2473 or hello@freebornwellness.com to RSVP for the cornhole tournament. No RSVP needed if you just plan on attending the celebration.

We can't wait to see familiar faces and many new ones as we look forward to the new year.

Gemini Events

Join Gemini Events for their upcoming "New Years Market". Dated for Saturday January 15th from 9am-5pm, we will feature a variety of vendors that include home décor, bath products, jewelry, and so much more. The Market will be held at the Jester Auto Museum at 321 Hamilton Rd, Chehalis, WA. Come check out new vendors and some you have seen before. Mark your calendars, grab your friends and family, and come shop! To find out more information about Gemini Events and their upcoming events visit us at www.geminievents.net or contact Ashley Stotts at 916-284-2587.

CENTRALIA - CHEHALIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2022



ANNUAL BANQUET

WHEN

Friday, January 21st, 2022

HOSTED AT

Hotel Washington

The Vintage Grand Room

545 N Market Blvd, Chehalis, WA 98532

JOIN US FOR

Silent Auction • Networking • Dinner



CHECK ONLINE FOR MOST RECENT EVENT INFORMATION

CENTRALIA - CHEHALIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2022



ANNUAL BANQUET

JOIN US

Social Hour..... 6:00pm

Dinner..... 6:30pm

Program..... 7:00pm

MAKE A RESERVATION

Per Person \$50

Sponsor a Table \$350

Please RSVP by January 17, 2022

Register Online



CONTACT THE CHAMBER

(360) 748-8885 • chamberway.com

500 NW Chamber of Commerce Way
Chehalis, WA 98532

SPONSORED BY:



2021 Yearly Recap

As we continue to fight this global pandemic, you can be sure that the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce will continue to support and promote our community and businesses.

Please enjoy these photos from some of last year's events!



2021 Annual Banquet



Virtual STP/Summer Concert



56th Annual Home & Sportsman Show



Trick or Treat Transit



Mortgage One Northwest Ribbon-Cutting



Lewis County Hiring Fair 2.0



**#ChooseLocalFirst
Black Friday Bag Giveaway**



**71st Annual
Santa Parade**